



The gender approach, key in COVID-19 response



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Since the World Health Organization (WHO) declared COVID-19 a pandemic on March 11, countries around the world began to adopt measures and strategies to control its spread and the terrible effects it entails. In this Statement¹, Dr. Adhanom Ghebreyesus, WHO Director General, recalled that “looking only at the number of cases and the number of countries affected does not allow the full picture to be seen.” Indeed, the COVID-19 outbreak is not only a health crisis, but its spread and the measures being taken to contain it also have serious social and economic effects.

In this triple dimension of the pandemic, health, social and economic, it is necessary to also know the scope of the gender impact it produces, and incorporate it in the response to a crisis that, due to its own characteristics, affects women and men differently. These characteristics are:

- **Overload of health work and essential services:** women represent 70% of health personnel worldwide and constitute also the majority in other sectors like food trade and hospital and residential cleaning services that are essential and are on the frontlines of the coronavirus crisis.
- **Centrality of caring activities:** women continue to carry out most of the domestic and care work, paid and unpaid, also assuming a greater mental burden derived from it. In addition, many women find themselves unable work or are considering quitting their jobs due to the need of taking care of their children while the schools are closed.
- **Women are more likely to have greater precariousness and in-work poverty** (uncontracted, insecure, and lower-paid work), which places them in a worse situation to face a new period of crisis (especially young women, women with low qualifications and migrant women). Besides, some of the most affected sectors, such as commerce, tourism and hospitality are highly feminised. In its latest projections, the OECD² predicts that tourism will have a 70% reduction in activity. Alongside, the International Monetary Fund (IMF)³ estimates that the slowdown in the economy in Spain in 2020 will be determined by supply chains, trade, tourism and domestic consumption.
- **Increased risk and consequences of gender-based violence** and other types of violence against women exacerbated by lockdown policies.

Some of the aspects that should be considered in order to incorporate a gender perspective into the response to COVID-19 are specified below.

1 WHO, Director General Opening Remarks <https://www.who.int/es/dg/speeches/detail/who-director-general-s-opening-remarks-at-the-media-briefing-on-covid-19---11-march-2020>

2 OECD <http://www.oecd.org/newsroom/la-ocde-actualiza-sus-perspectivas-para-la-economia-mundial-ante-la-cumbre-del-g20.htm>

3 IMF Spain: Concluding statement of the 2020 Article IV Mission <https://www.imf.org/es/News/Articles/2020/03/10/mcs031120-spain-staff-concluding-statement-of-the-2020-article-iv-mission>

**Ignoring the gender impact would
have negative economic and social
consequences that would exacerbate
inequalities**

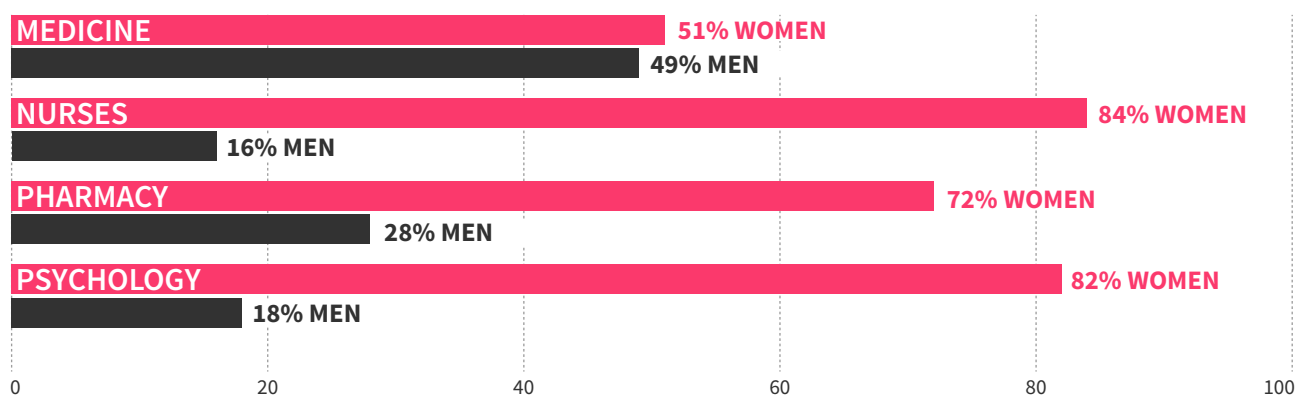


Care: women on the frontline of COVID-19 response

At the close of this briefing paper⁴, there are 3.595.662 confirmed cases of COVID-19 worldwide. Spain has confirmed 220.325 infections and 25.857 deaths⁵. These figures show the significance of a health crisis that society as a whole is facing and, within it, especially the healthcare staff, made up of a majority of women.

According to the latest data from the Active Population Survey (APS), women represent 66% of health staff⁶, reaching 84% in the case of nurses⁷.

Health professions by sex



Participation percentages of women and men are similar in nursing and care homes for the elderly and dependent people, where the most serious cases and the highest number of deaths have occurred. 334,300 people work in these establishments, of which 280,400 are women, representing 84% of the contracted staff⁸.

The traditional assignment of the caregiver role to women, places health professionals on the frontline of the disease responses, especially nurses and geriatric assistants, whose direct and continuous contact

4 7th May 2020

5 Ministry of Health <https://covid19.isciii.es/>

6 Own elaboration from EPA. INE <https://www.ine.es/dynt3/inebase/es/index.htm?padre=5624&capsel=5630>

7 Graph: Own elaboration from INE data. https://www.ine.es/prensa/epsc_2018.pdf

8 EPA. INE <https://www.ine.es/up/rTBuNOB2i5>

with people infected by coronavirus implies a high level of contagion exposure, in addition to the enormous pressure derived from doubling shifts and doing many more overtime hours than usual with the emotional and psychological consequences it may bring. This majority of women are joined by cleaners, shop assistants and cashiers at food stores and supermarkets, a set of essential and feminized professions that reveal the need to include a gender approach into all the social and economic government strategies, placing care at the centre.

Finally, the situation of domestic workers and caregivers also deserves attention, especially those who work as internal caregivers for elderly or dependent people, where confinement restrictions have meant that they must remain in the houses in which they work, sometimes without adequate protection and without the possibility of returning to their homes and attending to their own needs.

Coronavirus places care at the centre and women on the frontline response to the pandemic

The COVID-19 crisis also has an important social dimension in the private sphere, which acts as a buffer against it and, once again, places women at the forefront of the response to the disease, since they are the ones that carry out most of the domestic work: 70% of care tasks fall on women. In addition, to the usual difficulties to achieve life balance and the insufficient share of households and care responsibilities between women and men, it must be added the closure of educational centres, the difficulties to remote working during the confinement, causing work overload if shared responsibility mechanisms are not supported by all the actors involved: administrations, companies and households. Especial attention need single-parent families, who are struggling during the pandemic, eight out of ten headed by women⁹.

This situation is also generating, at times, an increase in the digital gender gap, especially in most vulnerable households with difficulties in accessing to internet and electronic devices that prevent job preservation in a context in which telework is shown as one of the few ways to do it. This option is not always available to people with precarious jobs or in the informal economy, many of whom are women.

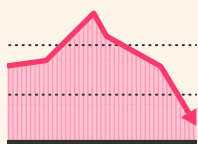
In conclusion, **gender constraints determine the difference in the impact of the crisis on women and men. The traditional role of caregivers assigned to women gives them a degree of presence in the response to the disease that must be taken into account in tackling the crisis. Ignoring the gender impact of economic and social consequences of this pandemic will exacerbate inequalities.** To avoid this, women must be part of both direct response and decision-making, that is, they cannot be only providers of global health while men lead.

9 <https://bit.ly/2z44GQv>

Economy and employment

The COVID-19 crisis is, above all, a health crisis, but with significant negative Impact and consequences on the economy and labour markets around the world.

The confinement restrictions and the partial, total, temporary or permanent interruption of business activities will directly raise unemployment rates, may damage the quality of work, being vulnerable groups among the hardest hit. The International Labour Organization (ILO) estimates that up to 25 million jobs could be lost worldwide and points out some of the most relevant aspects of the effects of the crisis on employment.



Many companies, especially medium and small ones, **will see their solvency and continuity threatened** by significant economic losses.



Employment may have a 6.7% fall, equivalent to the **loss of 195 million full-time jobs**, in the second quarter of 2020.



Workers will have a loss of income, which will profoundly affect those in the informal economy.



Retail trade, food and lodging services and manufacturing industries will be the most affected sectors.

As highlighted by the ILO Monitor in COVID-19 and the world of work¹⁰, the labour market is not uniform and the impact of the crisis will have different effects for each sector in the short, medium and long term. Thus, as shown in the following table, at first, in the educational activities and, especially, in health care and social work activities, the impact of the crisis in terms of employment losses will be less and they will maintain their employment capacity. Also some essential activities (agriculture, livestock ...), which are the main source of employment in many countries, maintain the activity, although they may suffer a higher impact in the medium term, due to sanitary controls, transportation difficulties and border closures, which will especially affect seasonal workers, people moving to meet the needs of the agricultural seasons. This situation is already seen in Spain, where the female strawberry seasonal workers, of Moroccan origin, are not being able to reach the Peninsula and thus the collection areas.

But the commerce, hospitality and services sectors, which have a significant presence of women, will be those suffering the most from the economic crisis derived from the pandemic. The tourism standstill directly affects the activities of accommodation, food service or transport, and will have a slow recovery according to estimates made.

¹⁰ ILO Monitor: COVID-19 and the world of work. 2nd ed.
https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---dgreports/---dcomm/documents/briefingnote/wcms_740877.pdf

**Confinement restrictions
and the paralysis of business
activities will strongly hit female
employment and working
conditions**



WORKERS AT RISK: SECTORAL PERSPECTIVE

Economic sector	Current impact of crisis on economic output	Baseline employment situation (global estimates for 2020 prior to COVID-19)			
		Level of employment (000s)	Share in global employment (%)	Wage ratio (av. monthly sector earnings/av. total earnings)	Share of women (%)
Education	Low	176560	5,3	1,23	61,8
Human health and social work activities	Low	136244	4,1	1,14	70,4
Public administration and defence; compulsory social security	Low	144241	4,3	1,35	31,5
Utilities	Low	26589	0,8	1,07	18,8
Agriculture; forestry and fishing	Low-Medium*	880373	26,5	0,72	37,1
Construction	Medium	257041	7,7	1,03	7,3
Financial and insurance activities	Medium	52237	1,6	1,72	47,1
Mining and quarrying	Medium	21714	0,7	1,46	15,1
Arts, entertainment and recreation, and other services	Medium-high*	179857	5,4	0,69	57,2
Transport; storage and communication	Medium-high*	204217	6,1	1,19	14,3
Accommodation and food services	High	143661	4,3	0,71	54,1
Real estate; business and administrative activities	High	156878	4,7	0,97	38,2
Manufacturing	High	463091	13,9	0,95	38,7
Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	High	481951	14,5	0,86	43,6

Source: ILO Monitor: COVID-19 and the world of work. 2^a ed.

* denotes sectors that include subsectors that have been affected in different ways.

In Spain, the consequences for the economy and employment of the coronavirus crisis are already being felt in the latest unemployment data. Thus, according to Registered Unemployment Data, in March¹¹ unemployment has increased by 302,265 people, representing a growth of 9.31% compared to the previous month. By sex, female unemployment has grown 6.5% and male 13.2%, meaning the rate of growth of male unemployment in the short term doubles that of female, although at the moment the latter is still considerably higher¹². By sector, the largest annual increase occurs in the construction sector with 22.10%, followed by services with an increase of 9.91%.

In addition to the direct consequences caused by COVID-19, there are also aggravating factors of unemployment in Spain that impact differently on women and men, such as the high temporary employment rate, our dependence on tourism, a business network made up of SMEs and self-employed workers and a gap in the employment rate of women of 11.7%¹³.

Thus, the lower increase in female unemployment in relation to men in the last month does not guarantee an improvement in female employability and future expectations for women, since, to the historical female difficulties to access and maintain employment, it must be added that the sectors of commerce, tourism and hospitality, which shows a high percentage of female employment, are the most affected and in which the recovery of activity will be slower.

Also, at this point, it is worth mentioning the situation of a precarious sector such as that of domestic workers, in which the existence of dismissal for withdrawal, the non-inclusion in full in the general Social Security system, the non-recognition of unemployment benefits and the high level of exposure to contagion make them one of the most vulnerable groups, especially considering the high number of women who also work in the informal economy in this sector and for whom only the approach of the crisis and post crisis with a gender focus can mitigate its negative impact. In the last month there have been 3.3% fewer registrations in the Social Security system¹⁴.

Domestic workers are among the hardest hit groups by the COVID-19 crisis

Difficulties for business and employment are a central concern in the current crisis. With the dual purpose of maintaining business activity and jobs, companies are urged to establish alternative organisational systems, such as remote work, that reduce the cases in which it is necessary to temporarily or permanently end or reduce the activities. However, teleworking must be carried out and evaluated applying a gender approach and taking into account the need for a better share of household and care responsibilities between women and men. To that end, it is also necessary to promote measures allowing workers taking care of children and dependent people due to the exceptional circumstances derived from the COVID-19.

11 Ministry of Labour and Social Economy. <http://prensa.empleo.gob.es/WebPrensa/noticias/laboral/detalle/3768>

12 In March 2020 3.548.312 unemployed people were registered, 2.029.370 women and 1.528.942 men. Data from SEPE <https://www.sepe.es/HomeSepe/que-es-el-sepe/estadisticas/datos-avance/paro.html>

13 INE. <https://www.ine.es/infografias/tasasepa/desktop/tasas.html?t=1&lang=es>

14 Ministry of Labour and Social Economy. <http://www.mitramiss.gob.es/es/estadisticas/resumenweb/RUD.pdf>

Telework implementation and evaluation must incorporate a gender perspective and consider the need for a better shared responsibility within the household



MAIN MEASURES ADOPTED IN SPAIN IN THE EMPLOYMENT AREA, WITH A GENDER PERSPECTIVE



REMOTE WORK (TELEWORKING)

- **Preference of remote work**, over temporary cessation or reduction of activity.
- **The self-assessment carried out voluntarily by the worker** himself will be sufficient for the purposes of the obligation to assess occupational risks provided for in Act 31/1995, of November 8, on Prevention of Occupational Risks (on health and safety at work).



FLEXIBLE WORKING HOURS AND REDUCED WORKING DAY

- **Care of spouse, unmarried partner or family members** up to 2nd degree of consanguinity when there are exceptional circumstances related to the necessary actions to avoid community transmission of COVID-19.
Exceptional circumstances are:
 - **That the presence of the worker is necessary for the care** of any of the indicated persons who, for reasons of age, illness or disability, **needs personal and direct care** as a direct consequence of COVID-19.
 - **The closure of educational centres or those providing care** for those in need
 - **The worker who has been providing this care cannot continue doing it** for justified reasons related to COVID-19.
- **Special reduction of the working day** in the situations provided for in article 37.6, of the Workers Statute, when the exceptional circumstances mentioned occur.
 - must be communicated to the company **24 hours** in advance, and
 - **one hundred percent of the complete schedule** can be reached if necessary.
- **If work life balance measures provided for in art. 37 of the Workers' Statute were in use**, these may be modified or waived for the time in which the exceptional circumstances related to COVID-19 occur.

Royal Decree-Law 8/2020, of March 17, on extraordinary urgent measures to face the economic and social impact of COVID-19.



EXTRAORDINARY SUBSIDY FOR LACK OF ACTIVITY FOR PEOPLE INTEGRATED INTO THE SPECIAL SCHEME FOR DOMESTIC WORKERS

■ **People hired as domestic workers before the entry into force of the state of alarm**, March 14, 2020, will be entitled to the subsidy as long as they:

- **have stopped providing services in one or more homes**, totally or partially, in order to reduce the risk of transmission due to the COVID-19.
- **have been subject to dismissal or withdrawal of contract** during the health crisis.

■ The subsidy will be equivalent to **70% of its regulatory salary base** in the event that the loss of activity is total. If the employee reduces her working hours, she will receive the proportional part corresponding to that reduction.

Royal Decree-Law 11/2020, of March 31, adopting urgent complementary measures in the social and economic field to deal with COVID-19.

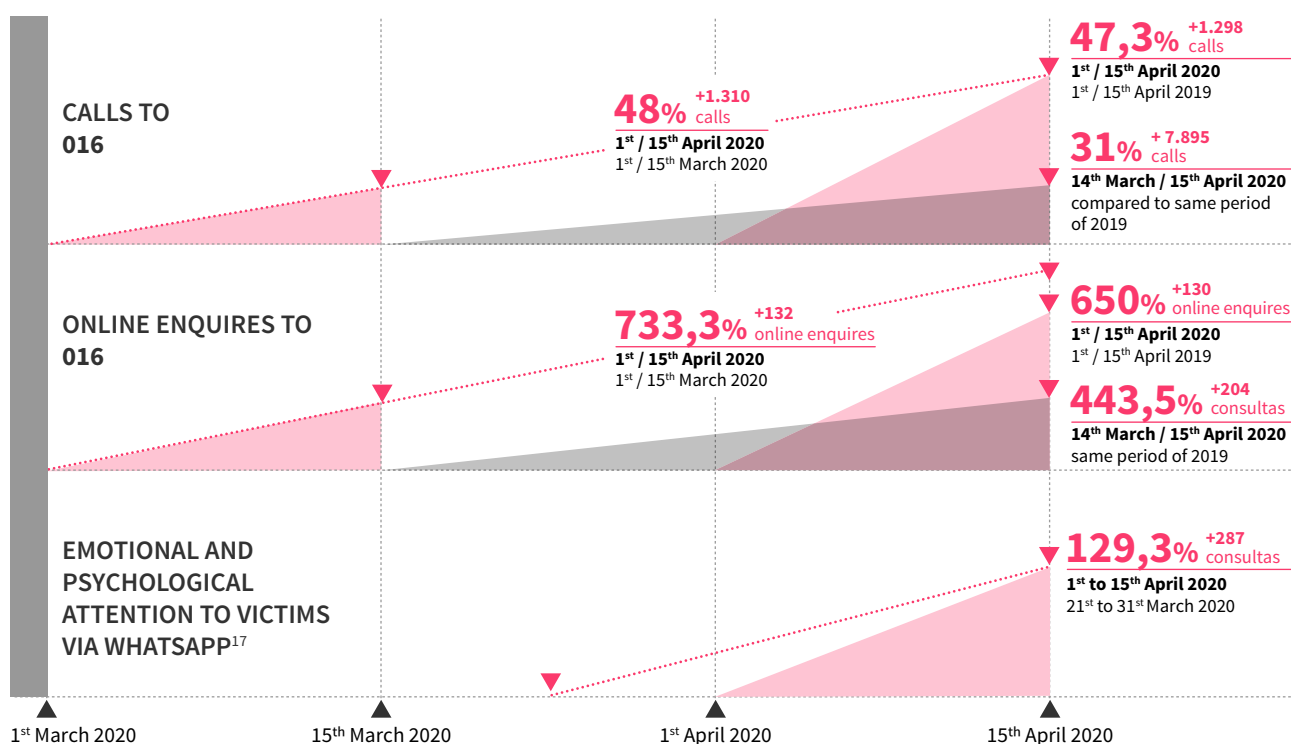


Gender-based violence and other type of violence against women

In contexts of confinement such as the one currently being experienced in Spain and worldwide, women who suffer gender-based violence, women victims of trafficking and sexual exploitation, as well as prostituted women, constitute especially vulnerable groups.

In the case of women victims of gender violence, their risks are aggravated, since they are forced to live with their aggressor. In this sense, the UN¹⁵ has made a global call to act against the rebound in gender violence during the pandemic and in situations of isolation.

The data collected at state level¹⁶ in Spain during the confinement restrictions due to COVID-19 reflects a huge increase in requests for help due to gender-based violence.



15 UN Secretary-General's video message on gender-based violence and COVID-19. <https://www.un.org/sg/es/content/sg/statement/2020-04-05/secretary-generals-video-message-gender-based-violence-and-covid-19-scroll-down-for-french>

16 Government Delegation against Gender Violence (1st April 2020)

17 New service established in the Contingency Plan against gender violence to face the COVID-19 crisis.

In Spain, following the declaration of the state of alarm¹⁸ for the management of the health crisis caused by COVID-19, the **Royal Decree-Law 12/2020, of March 31, on urgent protection measures and assistance to victims of gender-based violence**, was approved by the proposal of the Ministry of Equality and the Ministry for Home Affairs.

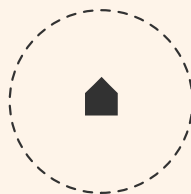
This way, measures adopted in the context of the crisis are recognised to have an especial impact on women victims of gender-based violence and on victims of trafficking and sexual exploitation, therefore this RD-law adopts a series of organisational measures aimed at guaranteeing the adequate functioning of all the existing services intended for the protection of both groups of women, as well as their adaptation to the exceptional circumstances of confinement.

Contingency Plan against gender-based violence develops a series of strategic and operational measures that will help prevent, control and minimize the possible negative consequences in the lives of many victims of gender-based violence resulting from confinement measures

¹⁸ Royal Decree 463/2020, of March 14, in which it is declared the State of Alarm for the management of the health crisis situation caused by COVID-19.

THEREFORE, IT IS IMPORTANT TO HIGHLIGHT THAT THE CONSIDERATION OF ALL THE COMPREHENSIVE ASSISTANCE SERVICES FOR THE GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE VICTIMS AS ESSENTIAL SERVICES **MEANS THAT THE SERVICE OPERATORS MUST GUARANTEE THE NORMAL FUNCTIONING OF:**

- **The 24-hour available information resources**
(telephone **016** and online inquiries via email: 016-online@mscbs.es).
- **The emergency response and admission for victims at risk.**
- **Emergency centres, shelters, supervised flats and safe accommodation**
for victims of sexual exploitation and trafficking.
- **Psychological, legal and social remote assistance to victims**
(by phone or through other channels).



In this context, the Ministry of Equality, through the Government Delegation against Gender-Based Violence, has promoted a Contingency Plan against gender-based violence that has been materialized in various actions and measures, in agreement with the Autonomous Regions.

MEASURES PROMOTED THROUGH THE CONTINGENCY PLAN



“WE ARE WITH YOU. WE STOP GENDER VIOLENCE TOGETHER”

This is the name of the **campaign** launched by the Ministry of Equality and the Government Delegation against Gender-Based Violence, to prevent sexist violence. The campaign aims to convey to public opinion that gender-based violence is not a private matter, but rather a human rights violation that concerns the society as a whole, highlighting the work of all in the fight against violence against women, as well as alerting about situations of violence within homes and raising awareness of good treatment during the period of confinement.

The campaign makes available to Spanish society and women in particular various general services declared essential during the state of alarm. The materials developed include various posters and images for publication and dissemination on social networks, including telephones and assistance information in Spanish, in the different co-official languages as well as in English, French, Chinese and Russian, in order to be also disseminated in neighbourhoods, municipalities, public transport, organizations, public venues and pharmacies.



GUIDE FOR ACTION FOR WOMEN WHO ARE EXPERIENCING GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE IN A SITUATION OF HOME CONFINEMENT OR HOME STAY BY COVID-19

This **guide** gathers information on the prevention and response actions that continue to be underway from the Ministry of Equality in order to attend women who may be experiencing gender-based violence, especially in emergency situations.

As part of the commitment to support and assist against gender-based violence, the guide lists the services made available and provides answers to some questions that may arise depending on the situation in which the victim is. The exceptional circumstances that confinement entails have meant the incorporation of a new instant messaging service through WhatsApp with expert psychologists in gender violence who provide emotional and psychological victims support.

GOVERNMENT DELEGATION AGAINST GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE RESOURCES

The Government Delegation against Gender-Based Violence has updated the resources made available to the victims from the Autonomous Regions and cities. Through the following **link**, these resources can be reached.

Likewise, various entities and associations, as well as women's institutes from different Autonomous Regions, have launched initiatives and actions aimed at victims of gender-based violence during the state of alarm by COVID-19.

ALERTCOPS / SOS BUTTON

The Ministry for Home Affairs has reinforced the protection of victims of gender-based violence and health staff and services with the “**SOS Button**” of the AlertCops application (service provided through a free application on mobile devices, which provides a direct channel with the State Security Forces to communicate information if you are a victim or a witness).

The new functionality allows, in case of need, both health staff and victims of gender-based violence, to discreetly require the immediate assistance of the State Security Forces. This new functionality will facilitate the identification and location of the victims and will start recording for 10 seconds the events that are occurring in order to obtain an immediate response from the Security Forces.



**Health services
Staff**

Health services Staff

Health staff who wish to install the new functionality of the “SOS Button” must identify themselves with the code “APSA” with their ID, as health staff in the “My Data” section of the application.



Victims

Victims of gender-based violence

Women victims of gender-based violence can make use of the new “SOS Button” within the AlertCops App, so that, in risky situations, they can receive immediate assistance from the police.

Another dimension that deserves attention in the face of the confinement is that experienced by victims of trafficking and sexual exploitation. Their administrative irregularity situation, in the vast majority of cases, means that they do not appear in the official records of possible people affected by the disease and have difficulties in accessing to the public health system. The number of identified human trafficking victims in Europe has almost doubled in recent years and it is feared that the actual data will far exceed these figures. Between 2015 and 2018, an increase of 44% was registered, going from 10,598 victims to 15,310 in the 47 member countries of the Council of Europe¹⁹. In Spain, there are several associations that provide comprehensive assistance to prevent and eradicate sexual exploitation and trafficking of human beings. Doctors of the World, given the situation that is being experienced due to the coronavirus, has warned of the situation of prostituted women.

The Ministry of Equality has launched a Plan to guarantee the rights of victims of sexual exploitation, trafficking for sexual exploitation and women in contexts of prostitution, as well as the provision of services and resources for the care of their specific needs before the scenario derived from the RD 463/2020, of 14 March, in which it is declared the State of Alarm for the management of the health crisis situation caused by COVID-19

On the other hand, among the recommendations issued by UN Women, which place the needs and leadership of women at the centre of effective responses to COVID-19, it is also highlighted the protection of basic health services for women and girls, including sexual and reproductive health services. The first global report, in relation to the power of decision of women with respect to their bodies, prepared by the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) ²⁰ reveals that 25% cannot decide on their access to health services, a 25% cannot refuse to have sex with their husband or partner and 10% cannot make decisions regarding the use of contraceptives. The number of women who can make decisions in these three fields reaches only 55%. In this sense, **the restrictive measures adopted worldwide to fight against COVID-19, as stated by UNFPA, can add to the difficulty in accessing sexual and reproductive health services**. Thus, in situations of saturation of health services, access to contraception and pre and post-natal care must be guaranteed.

19 **Annual report of the Group of Experts on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings (GRETA)**, from the Council of Europe

20 United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA):
Ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health and reproductive right(2019)

Institutional responses and analysis against COVID-19

The COVID-19 outbreak and its spread throughout the world has led international organizations, states and public and private institutions to develop and implement multiple actions of various kinds aimed at fighting the disease and mitigating its effects on the economy and the labour market.



SPAIN

As a result of the crisis caused by the COVID-19 outbreak, and since the approval of the state of alarm on March 14, Spain has adopted, at state and regional level, various measures with the aim of stopping its advance and its negative impact. These measures have been collected on a website.

- **State Government.** State of Alarm. COVID-19 Health crisis measures.
https://administracion.gob.es/pag_Home/atencionCiudadana/Estado-de-alarma-crisis-sanitaria.html#.XqH9PNoUnIU
- **Ministry of Social Rights and 2030 Agenda.** Guide providing access to urgent measures in the social and economic fields to address the COVID-19
<https://www.mscbs.gob.es/ssi/covid19/guia.htm>
- **National Statistics Office.** Data. Households at home. The confinement between four walls
<https://bit.ly/2z44GQv>
- **Elcano Royal Institute:** “COVID-19 crisis and its impact in gender equality”, María Solanas Cardín.
<https://bit.ly/2WfoHeT>



EUROPEAN UNION

■ **The European Commission** has created a coronavirus response team at the political level to coordinate the response to the pandemic.
https://ec.europa.eu/info/live-work-travel-eu/health/coronavirus-response_en

■ **European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE):**
<https://eige.europa.eu/topics/health/covid-19-and-gender-equality>

How COVID-19 is impacting gender equality in different areas of society:

- ▶ Frontline workers
<https://eige.europa.eu/covid-19-and-gender-equality/frontline-workers>
- ▶ Gender impacts and health
<https://eige.europa.eu/covid-19-and-gender-equality/gender-impacts-health>
- ▶ Unpaid work, care and housework
<https://eige.europa.eu/covid-19-and-gender-equality/unpaid-care-and-housework>
- ▶ Economic hardship and gender
<https://eige.europa.eu/covid-19-and-gender-equality/economic-hardship-and-gender>
- ▶ Gender- based violence
<https://eige.europa.eu/covid-19-and-gender-equality/gender-based-violence>
- ▶ People in vulnerable situations
<https://eige.europa.eu/covid-19-and-gender-equality/people-vulnerable-situations>
- ▶ European Network of Equality Bodies (EQUINET). EQUINET response to COVID-19
<https://equineteurope.org/covid-19-response/>

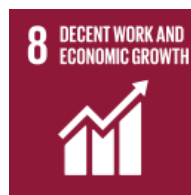
■ **European Network of Equality Bodies (EQUINET).** EQUINET response to COVID-19
<https://equineteurope.org/covid-19-response/>



INTERNATIONAL LEVEL

Organizations and institutions in various fields have begun to carry out reports and analysis studies of the social and economic consequences that the global health crisis is having worldwide. Some of them that stand out and include a gender focus are highlighted below.

- **International Labour Organization (ILO):** COVID-19 and the world of work
- **United Nations:** Report “Policy Brief: The Impact of COVID-19 on Women”
https://www.un.org/sites/un2.un.org/files/policy_brief_on_covid_impact_on_women_9_apr_2020_updated.pdf
Press release: <https://www.un.org/en/un-coronavirus-communications-team/put-women-and-girls-centre-efforts-recover-covid-19>
- **COUNCIL OF EUROPE (CoE)** *Women’s rights and the COVID-19 pandemic* contains information on actions undertaken by member states, on the Council of Europe institutional response, and on the initiatives implemented by other international organisations and by NGOs.
- **United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA):** COVID-19: A Gender Lens. Protecting sexual and reproductive health and rights, and promoting gender equality.
- **UN Women** Gender equality matters in COVID-19 response
<https://www.unwomen.org/en/news/in-focus/in-focus-gender-equality-in-covid-19-response>
“Paying attention to women’s needs and leadership will strengthen COVID-19 response”
<https://www.unwomen.org/en/news/stories/2020/3/news-womens-needs-and-leadership-in-covid-19-response>
- **Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD):** Women at the core of the fight against COVID-19 crisis
- **UN** Spain’s experience against coronavirus, lessons for other countries
<https://news.un.org/es/story/2020/04/1472622>
- **CARE Organization:** “Gender implications of COVID-19 outbreaks in development and humanitarian settings”
<https://www.care.org/newsroom/press/press-releases/covid-19s-gender-implications-examined-in-policy-brief-care>



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

As a public body, the Institute of Women aims to contribute to the achievement of the **UN Sustainable Development 2030 Agenda** and to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). And more in particular, with this publication to the attainment of goals **5. Gender Equality** and **8. Decent Work and Economic Growth**.

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